

Washington - Today, Congressman John Olver (1st District) announced that the House Appropriations Committee has approved funding for Pioneer Valley Public Transportation. Olver serves on the Transportation Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, and he said, "This funding will help make it easier for local residents to use public transportation," and "Approval by the Appropriations Committee is a preliminary step toward final passage of the bill." "These types of investments in transportation infrastructure are essential if we are to improve our region's ability to attract and retain businesses and jobs," Olver said. "The voice and visual displays that PVTA will add to its buses will notify passengers of the funding and help them understand the benefits of the program." Olver helped to secure \$19.6 million in transportation earmarks for the First Congressional District. "This is an excellent start for the Transportation bill," Olver said. "As the appropriations process moves forward, we will continue to work to ensure that the funding is used effectively." For more information on these transportation projects, contact Gary Shepard (413) 731-1234.

###